# NEW SOUTH WALES.

# BUSINESS STATISTICS APRIL, 1944.

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## PART I - PRIMARY & EXPORT INDUSTRIES.

Seasonal Conditions. During April there were heavy rain in the South Coast and light to moderate rains in all other divisions. Heavy general rains are, however, urgently needed the for sowing of wheat and other crops and for winter feed. Most pastures are very dry and stock are being hand fed in some areas.

### RAINFALL INDEX - N.S.W.

Weighted average ratio of actual to normal rainfall.

Normal rainfall each month = 100.

Month	Sheep	Wheat Districts	Dairying (Coastal) Districts
1943 - Oct.	90	83	147 12 209 14 176 176
Nov.	170	171	
Dec.	5\	32	
1944 - Jan.	n edf 45	28	178
Feb.	edf 58	32	37
Mar.	emred 41	49	50

The Department of Agriculture has issued a report on production trends, including the following -

Maize. An average area (about 115,000 acres) is estimated to have been planted to maize in 1945/44. Some transfer from yellow to white varieties is indicated. In the Central and North Coasts and Northern Tablelands, which produce 75% of the crop growing conditions were favourable earlier in the season but later sown crops have suffered from lack of moisture. There has been comparative failure of crops in sections of the South Coast and Slopes.

Broom Millet. Crops are disappointing in the Tumut-Gundagai area, which normally provides about 40% of the State production. Elsewhere (Hunter, Manning and Richmond Rivers and Tamworth) crops are generally good but acreages fall short of requirements. Production will be substantially below the demand for fibre.

Rice. Estimated plantings in 1943/44 are 38,600 acres as compared with 34,300 acres in 1942/43 and 23,700 in 1941/42. Good yields are expected. The production forecast for 1943/44 is 67,500 tons of paddy rice, about 10,000 tons more than 1942/43 and 26,000 tons above 1941/42.

Potatoes. Autumn plantings amount to about 1,000 acres, being 200 acres in excess of last year. Total area sown in the 1943/44 season is estimated at 34,300 acres or 40% more than in 1942/43. Because of losses in early coastal crops due to wet rot and blight and dry conditions encountered by main season crops in central and southern districts, the Departmental estimate of production in 1943/44 is 75,000 tons as compared with 64,700 tons last year.

Dried Fruits. Preliminary figures as to production of dried vine fruits in N.S.W. in 1943 are as follows viz. Currants 1,298 tons (1,381 last year), Sultanas 7,270 tons (7,489), Lexias 600 tons (532), Total 9,168 tons (9402). Production of Prunes is estimated at 2,231 tons (2,148), dried apricots at 104 tons (341) and dried peaches at 66 tons (86.

#### MEAT.

The price of dehydration quality mutton has been increased by  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb. (from  $3\frac{1}{8}$ d. to  $3\frac{3}{8}$ d.) to encourage increased marketing of sheep so that plants may be enabled to work at capacity during months of short supply.

#### WHEAT.

Licenses issued in N.S.W. for the 1944/45 season number nearly 19,500 for an area of roughly 4 m. acres. Last year there were 20,585 licenses for 3.7 m. acres but the area harvested for grain was nearly 1 m. acres less than the area licensed.

The N.S.W. acreage goal for wheat for grain in 1944/45 has been set at 3.4 m. acres, or 0.6 m. more than the area (2.8 m. acres) estimated as harvested in 1943/44. Sowings, made normally in the period April/June, have been held up by dry weather which has prevented preparation of land. Rainfall in wheat areas averaged only 28% to 49% of normal in the four months ended March.

#### WCOL.

Autmun shorn wool from western N.S.W. shows the effects of the dry season, the clips generally carrying much dust and being finer than usual. Many are also unusually short, due to premature shearing because of feed scarcity. Sydney appraisements to mid-April total 955,976 bales as compared with 959,233 bales last year. Arrivals in Sydney were 990,022 bales and 941,978 bales, respectively.

The price to Australian manufacturers of wool for the manufacture of goods for export has been increased by  $2\frac{1}{2}\%$  of appraised value. The new price, operative from 1st May, is 25% above the price of shorn wool consumed in Australia. Home consumption price remains unaltered at "appraised value" plus 10% for shorn wool or 5% for skin wool.

The Minister for Commerce has prepared a measure to provide for the labelling of textiles to indicate the fibres contained in them. It is to be submitted to State Governments with a view to the enactment of uniform legislation.

#### DAIRYING INDUSTRY.

Supplies of fresh milk to householders have been further reduced from 90% to 86% of normal, and to service establishments from 66% to 50%. Deliveries to city stores and cafes have been discontinued. Substantial rains on the South Coast in mid-April improved the outlook as regards winter feed but can afford little immediate relief.

Seasonal decline in butter production is reported to be more rapid than usual. Little cheese is being produced and N.S.W. requirements are being met mostly from other States. Butter production (67.8 m. lb.) in N.S.W. to the end of February was 2.7 m. lb. less than last year. Production (10.2 m.lb.) in February, 1944, was the same as in February, 1943, but 2.6 m. lb. less than in January, 1944.

# BUTTER PRODUCED - N.S.V. FACTORIES.

Period	Average 134-5/136-7	1939/40	1940/41	1941/42	1942/43	1943/44
July to Sept.	18.1	20.3	16.5	15.1	16.5	11.5
October	11.5	10.2	8.0	7.5	7.5	8.6
November	12.4	13.4	8.2	7.9	11.3	11.6
December	12.7	13.8	11.4	8.6	12.0	13.1
January	15.1	12.6	14.4	6.7	13.0	12.8
February	13.4	10.6	12.8	8.3	10.2	10.2
Mull die de die appreci	•	. HALL in	t in the	wastern from		
Total 8 months	83.2	80.9	71.3	54.1	70.5	67.8
Balance of year	37.9	31.1	32.4	31.0	23.3	•••
Year	121.1	112.0	103.7	85.1	93.8	

Australian production of butter and cheese in February, 1944, was a little less than in February, 1943.

In the eight months ended February, 1944, production of butter (119,637 tons) was 7,653 tons or 6.4% below last year's level. Cheese production (29,640 tons) showed an increase of 718 tons.

# BUTTER AND CHEESE PRODUCED - AUSTRALIAN FACTORIES.

	Month of 1	February.	Eight months ended February,			
Year	Butter.	Cheese.	Butter.	Cheese.		
	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons		
1941/42	13,261	1,904	114,125	22,068		
1942/43	15,424	2,610	127,290	28, 922		
1945/44	15,014	2,556	119,637	29,640		

Commonwealth subsidy at the interim rate of  $3\frac{1}{2}d$ . per 1b. of Commercial butter is to be paid to cream suppliers pending finalisation of plans for financial assistance during the current year. Consideration is being given to an alteration in the basis of subsidy whereby the amount granted might be related to higher costs during winter. Subsidy was paid at the final rate of 6/7d. per 1b. of butter during the nine months July, 1942 to March, 1943, and at the interim rate of  $3\frac{1}{2}d$ . per 1b. in the year ended March, 1944. In this year £6.5 m. was provided for subsidy on butter, cheese and other processed milk products.

N.S.W. BUTTER: PAY TO CREAM SUPPLIERS BY CERTAIN NORTH COAST FACTORIES.

Pence per 1b. of Commercial Butter, (Approximate).

Commission of the	Contract of Alabama South and in the state	Monthly P	ay	Deferred	Subsidy	The word	Total Pay
Year	Jah.	Feb.	8 Mar.	Pay, each month	each month.	Jan.	Feb. Mar.
1935 1939	9 <u>1</u> 12 <u>1</u>	12 <sup>3</sup> <sup>9</sup>	$8\frac{1}{2}$ $12\frac{1}{2}$	3 4 11 16		10 13 <sup>5</sup> / <sub>16</sub>	$9\frac{3}{4}$ $9\frac{1}{4}$ $13\frac{9}{4}$ $13\frac{9}{4}$
1941	121/2	123	123	16 1		131/2	$\begin{array}{ c c c c c c } \hline & 16 & 16 \\ \hline & 13\frac{3}{8} & 13\frac{3}{4} \\ \hline \end{array}$
1942 1943	12½ 13 <u>1</u> 7	12½ 13½ 7	$12\frac{1}{2}$ $13\frac{1}{7}$	1 .b.	6 7	13½ 15 <sub>6</sub>	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
1944	13½	131/2	151/2	* 100000	\$ 31		À À.

\* Not available until after 30th June, 1944 Ø Interim payment.

# PART II - FINANCE & TRADE, ETC.

Commonwealth Accounts. War expenditure reverted to a higher level in March, 1944, being £53.2 m. as compared with amounts, smaller than usual, of £36.9 m. in January and £39.7 m. in February.

In the nine months ended March, 1944, expenditure on war was £4.1 m. greater than in the corresponding period of the previous year. There was also an increase of £4.3 m. in civil expenditure, making a total increase of £8.4 m. in disbursements for all Commonwealth purposes. Total expenditure amounted to £499.1 m. of which £197.3 m. (£41 m. more than last year) was met from Revenue Account, and £301.8 m. (£32.6 m. less than last year) from Loan Account.

Omitting income tax reimbursed to States, revenue collections (£197.4 m.) in the nine months were £41.m. higher than last year.

Increases in individual items were Income Tax £33.7 m., Excise £2.7 m., Entertainments Tax £1.8 m., and Post Office £2.2 m. Decreases were Sales Tax £0.9 m. and Customs £0.7 m.

# COMMONVEALTH EXPENDITURE (EXCL. INCOME TAX REIMBURSED TO STATES).

#### £ million.

entharpur terror Frich Blieb	Estimates	Month of	March	Nine months ended March.			
Service.	1943/44	1943	1944	1943 <sup>1</sup>	1944	Increase or Decrease	
War (1939) from - Revenue Loans	167.6 402.3	10.3 37.1	17.8 35.4	73.0 334.4	109.7 301.8	(+) 36.7 (-) 32.6	
Total War Other Revenue Services	569.9 117.9	47.4 9.9	53.2 10.6	407.4 83.3	411.5 87.6	(+) 4.1 (+) 4.3	
Total all Services	687.8£	57 <b>.</b> 3	63.8	490.7	499.1	(+) 8.4	

<sup>\*</sup> Excludes £27.4 m., unappropriated balance of £29.7 transferred to National Welfare Fund.

New issues of Treasury Bills on Commonwealth Account in the nine months June/March were £188.5 m. in 1942/43 and £143.7 m. in 1943/44, showing a decline so far this year of £44.8 m. The amount of Bills outstanding at 31st March was £269 m. in 1943 and £403 m. in 1944.

#### TREASURY BILLS IN AUSTRALIA ON COMMONVEALTH ACCOUNT.

V		Amo	Increase in				
Year	June	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	9 months	Year
1942/43	80.5	186.2	212.7	248.7	269.0	188.5	178.8
1943/44	259.3	362.0	372.3	384.0	403.0	143.7	

State Accounts. The deficit of the combined revenue accounts to 31st March amounted to £1,076,000 in 1944 as against £305,000 in 1943. The increase (£771,000) in the combined deficit was due to an increase of £273,000 in the deficit of the Consolidated Revenue Fund and decreases in the working surpluses of Trams and Buses (£222,000) and Main Roads Account (£294,000). Small movements on other accounts show a net improvement of £18,000.

In the Consolidated Revenue Fund, there were comparative increases in payments for debt charges £150,000 and other votes £82,000, and a decrease in receipts £41,000.

# N.S.W. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS.

# Mine months ended March.

Accounts	1942/43	1943/44	Increase or Decrease (-)
59,0	£000	<i>\$</i> 000	£000
Revenue - Consolidated Fund  Business Undertakings  Main Roads	20, 205 30, 641 2, 027	20,163 32,462 1,925	(-) 42 1,821 (-) 102
Total  Expenditure - Consolidated Fund	52,873 28,211	54, 550 28, 442	1,677 231
## Business Undertakings  Main Roads	23, 236 1, 731	25, 261 1, 923	2,025 192
Total	53,178	55,626	2,448
Excess of Expenditure	305 c	1,076	771

Railways, Trams & Buses, Road Transport and Traffic Fund, and Sydney Harbour.

#### PRIVATE TRADING BANKS.

Deposits increased by £16.5 m. and advances decreased by £3.3 m. in February, 1944. There was a large increase (£12.5 m.) in Special Wartime Deposits; these represent surplus investible funds which the private banks are required by Regulation to place with the Commonwealth Bank. Liquid assets increased by £4.5 m.—cash by £0.9 m. and Treasury Bills by £3.6 m.

At £527 m., deposits in February, 1944, were £85.1 m. higher than a year ago. This increase comprised Fixed Deposits £22.4 m. and Current Deposits £62.7 m.. In previous years the whole of the increase was in Current Deposits.

Advances (£222.8 m.) declined by £12.5 m. and investments in Government Securities (£80.5 m.) increased by £19.3 m. in the year ended February, 1944.

# NINE TRADING BANKS - AUSTRALIA.

## Liabilities and Assets within Australia.

#### £ million.

10 mat 194.3	Deposits.		eg somjon	Coin,	Treas-	Govt.&	Special	A France
Av. of Teekly Figures.	Bearing Interest (Fixed)	Not Bearing Interest (Current)	Total	Notes, etc. & Cash at C'wealth Bank.	ury Bills.	Municipal Securit- ies.	Wartime Deposits with C(wealth Bank.	Advances, Discounts, etc.
939 <b>-June</b>	200.9	117.1	318.0	28.6	23.9	22.1	क्षात्र क्षात्	291.7
1940	210.3	135.1	345.4	31.1	38.3	43.7		289.9
941 "	204.9	155.1	360.0	33.3	36.1	61.9	69211111 <b>71</b> 3643	283.7
2942 "	192.0	195.9	387.9	40.4	39.6	56.3	36.4	268.3
1913 "	197.4	256.1	453.5	33.4	50.8	75.7	102.9	246.0
1942-Dec.	191.4	231.4	422.8	46.6	64.0	59.6	64.1	244.4
1943-Jan.	192.4	236.9	429.3	46.4	70.7	61,1	71.0	240.2
Feb.	193.6	248.3	441.9	40.5	81.1	61.2	79.0	235.3
Nov. Dec.	207.8	274.5 287.2	482.3	39.2 44.0	60.0 64.9	79.1 79.9	124.1 130.6	235.9 230.7
1944-Jan.	5 7 6 7	297.9	510.5	47.2	72.2	80.4	138.7	226.1
Feb.	216.0	311.0	527.0	48.1	75.8	80.5	151.2	222.8

### NOTE ISSUE.

Australian notes in the hands of the public (£159.9 m.) at 20th March, 1944, were nearly five times the amount in March, 1939, and £44 m. more than a year ago.

# AUSTRALIAN NOTES HELD BY PUBLIC.

	Mar.	Mar.	Mar.	Mar.	1944			
Annyane di Milital	1939	1941		1943. 19	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	
£millions	32.7	49.3	77.9	115.9	148.8	152.3	159.9	

## REAL ESTATE.

Real estate transfers registered in March, 1944 amounted to £1.5 m. They have been maintained at this rate for the last seven months apart from January. The total (£13.6 m.) in the nine months ended March was the same as last year and about 60% of 1939/40/

Mortgages, £611,000 in February and £663,000 in March, were higher than for some months.

#### REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS, N.S.W.

#### Thousand &.

	Sales. Mortgages (incl. reneals)								
Period	1939/40	1941/42	1942/43	1943/44	1939/40	1941/42	1942/43	1943/44	
October	2,350	3,013	1.514	1,549	1,713	1,413	423	618	
November	2,381	2,548	1,942	1,558	1,702	1,022	530	558	
December	2,067	2,972	1,260	1,592	1,344	1,242	562	494	
January	1.884	2,815	1,226	1,090	1,480	916	595	383	
February	2,524	2.472	1,294	1,506	1,428	975	390	611	
March	2,464	2,083	1,550	1,552	1,686	996	503	663	
July to Mar.	22,571	24, 554	13,613	13,560	15,574	10,018	4,592	4,608	

#### RETAIL PRICES.

Index numbers of Retail Prices, "C Series", for Sydney and Five New South Vales Towns (weighted average including Sydney) were unchanged from December quarter, 1943 to March quarter, 1944. The Index number for Six Capital Cities increased by 0.1%, increases being recorded in Helbourne (0.1%) Brisbare (0.4%) Perth (0.2%) and decreases in Adelaide (0.1%) and Hobart (1.1%). There was no change in the weighted average. Index number for Thirty Australian Towns, including capital cities.

# RETAIL PRICESX (Index Numbers) "C" Series.

(Cost of food, groceries, housing, clothing and miscellaneous items).

	, ,		A Colored St.		1.10.00		Water Street	hat go a series		
3 - 2 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 2 - 2 - 2 - 2	11 18,	arg   a	1939	1940	1941	1942		1945	111.00	1944
Area.		Mar.	Sep.	Mar.	Mar.	Mar.	Mar.	Sep.	Dec.	Mar.
	34   1.	Qr.	gr.	Qr.	Qr.	Qr.	Qr.	Qr.	Qr.	Qr.
N.S.W.			er de la companya de	to a de post	1 - 1 16 - 11	Approximate a				
Sydney		954	933	946	1018	1070	1141	1154	1145	1143
Five Towns (wtd.	av.)	932	930	943	1015	1068	1137	1151	1139	1139
						3	A AMERICA			
AUST.				1 . 1 . 8		B +	ART :	He of		
Siv capitals ("	11)			0.0	1, 17			100		
DIV Cabinate	"	919	916	930	995	1053	1123	1133	1123	1124
Thirty Towns. ("	")	916	914	927	992	1050	1119	1130	1120	1120
					The state of the s					

x Base: Weighted average in Six Capital Cities in 1923-1927 = 1000.

The basic wage is unaltered, the rate in Sydney being 99s., Melbourne 97s. Brisbane 93s., Perth 93s., Adelaide 93s. and Hobart 94s.

# EMPLOYMENT.

Estimates of employment as published monthly in these notes since April, 1942, and based largely in information extracted from Pay Roll Tax returns, have been revised in the light of results obtained from the Civilian Registration in June, 1943, on the occasion of the last ration book issue. These results have been of particular value in disclosing current data as to the fairly considerable body of workers (e.g. in small business, charities, etc.) not covered by Pay Roll Tax returns. The extent of revision necessary has been relatively small; it affected private employment only and in the main resulted in a decrease in the number of males and a somewhat smaller increase in the number of females.

On the revised basis (as shown in the following table) the estimated number of salary and wage earners in N.S.W. (excluding rural employees and household domestics) increased by 82,000 (males 25,500, females 56,500) between July, 1939 and November, 1941, immediately prior to war with Japan. Thereafter, as a result of heavy mobilisation, male employment declined by 35,300 between Nov. 1941 and November, 1943, the decrease amounting to 24,000 in the year ended Nov. 1942 and 11,300 in the next year to November, 1943. This loss in male employment (35,300 in the period of two years) was largely offset by an expansion of 30,800 in female employment. The net decrease in the total number of employees was 4,500.

The estimated employment in November, 1943 (775,400 comprising males 520,100 and females 255,300) was 76,300 above the prewar estimate in July, 1939, males being lower by 7,800 and females higher by 84,100.

In the two months Nov. 1943 to Jan. 1944, employment decreased by 1,200 as a result of an increase in males (2,000) and a decrease in females (3,200).

# NEW SOUTH WALES

ESTIMATED WAGE & SALARY EARNERS EMPLOYED (EXCL. RURAL WORKERS & HOUSEHOLD DOLESTICS)

(Includes Civil Construction Corps in N.S.W.)

The state of the s		ALES.	33/2.76	FE	MALES	1	TOTAL			
End of Month.	Govt. (C'wlth, State, Local & Allied).		Total	Govt. (C'wlth, State, Local & Allied).	Private Employ- crs.	Total	Govt. (C'wlth, State, Local & Allied).	A property again	Total	
	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	
1939-July	136.5	393.4	529.9	19.4	148.6	168.0	155.9	542.0	697.9	
1941-July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.	143.7 144.3 146.4	404.8 405.8 409.5 410.0 411.1 410.1	546.3 547.9 552.9 553.7 555.4 556.5	21.7 22.1 22.3 22.7 23.0 23.4	192.4 193.5 192.5 198.4 201.5 203.9	214.1 215.6 214.8 221.1 224.5 227.3	163.2 164.2 165.7 166.4 167.3 169.8	597.2 599.3 602.0 608.4 <b>G12.</b> 6 614.0	760.4 763.5 767.7 774.8 779.9 783.8	
1942-Jan. Fob. Mar. Apr. May Junc July Aug. Sopt. Oct. Nov. Dec.	146.8 148.6 151.1 154.1 155.3 156.3 158.6 158.4 157.1 157.4 156.7 154.5	4d1.9 398.7 393.9 386.6 383.8 377.2 376.0 576.9 377.6 376.2 574.7 375.4	548.7 547.3 545.0 540.7 539.1 533.5 534.6 535.3 534.7 533.6 531.4 529.9	24.0 25.2 25.7 27.2 28.1 29.0 29.3 30.0 31.3 32.9 33.9 35.1	199.6 201.6 202.2 202.7 202.2 201.3 203.6 204.3 204.8 205.5 206.9 208.9	223.6 226.8 227.9 229.9 230.3 230.3 232.9 234.2 236.1 238.4 240.8 244.0	170.8 173.8 176.8 181.3 183.4 185.3 187.9 188.4 190.3 190.6 189.6	601.5 600.3 596.1 589.3 586.0 578.5 579.6 581.1 582.4 581.7 581.6 584.3	772.3 774.1 772.9 770.6 769.4 765.8 767.5 769.5 770.8 772.0 772.2 773.9	
Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.	156.6 155.9 155.0 154.9 153.9 152.6	375.1 372.7 372.1 368.6 367.5 367.9 365.4 364.9 365.0 364.9 366.2 369.2	530.7 529.4 528.3 525.2 524.0 523.7 522.0 520.8 520.0 519.8 520.1 521.8	36.4 37.2 38.7 39.8 41.0 42.9 45.8 46.5 46.7 46.8 47.0 46.4	206.2 207.3 207.8 208.1 206.9 206.8 204.1 205.0 206.5 207.9 208.3 210.0	247.9 249.7 249.9 251.5	198.7 202.4 202.4 201.7	581.3 580.0 579.9 576.7 574.4 574.7 569.5 569.9 571.5 572.8 574.5 579.2	773.3 773.9 774.8 773.1 771.9 773.4 771.9 772.3 773.2 774.5 775.4 778.2	
1944-Jan.	152.5	369.6	522.1	46.6	205.5	252.1	199.1	575.1	774.2	
				*						